BCKGROUNDER NO. 1-0929 JUNE 11, 1976
JOHN LENNON

"THIS WEEK NO. 24"
(INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

ANNCR:

FROM THE VOICE OF AMERICA, THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK GONE BY ... A LOOK AT SOME OF THE EVENTS, A CROSS-SECTION OF THE IDEAS AND THE VOICES OF SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO MADE NEWS DURING THE PAST SEVEN DAYS. YOUR NARRATOR IS ----------.

NARR:

THIS WEEK SAW THE PASSING OF A MAJOR MILESTONE ALONG THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN TRAIL IN THE UNITED STATES ... WITH THE END OF A SERIES OF PRIMARY ELECTIONS THAT SPANNED THIRTY-ONE STATES DURING A THREE-AND-A-HALF MONTH PERIOD. THOSE ELECTIONS HAD BEGUN IN LATE FEBRUARY, WHEN VOTERS WENT TO THE POLLS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE TO MAKE THEIR SELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTIONS. THE WINNERS IN THAT FIRST PRIMARY CONTEST WERE PRESIDENT FORD ON THE REPUBLICAN SIDE -- AND FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR JIMMY CARTER FOR THE DEMOCRATS. OBSERVERS PREDICTED AFTER THAT FEBRUARY ELECTION THAT MISTER FORD WOULD SHAKE OFF HIS CHALLENGER, FORMER CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN, AND MOVE EASILY THROUGH THE PRIMARIES TO WIN HIS PARTY'S NOMINATION. MANY OF THOSE SAME POLITICAL OBSERVERS ALSO PREDICTED A MORE HEATED BATTLE AMONG THE DEMOCRATS -- WITH HARD TIMES AHEAD FOR MISTER CARTER, A RELATIVE UNKNOWN IN A FIELD OF NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED DEMOCRATIC CONTENDERS. BUT BY THE END OF THE PRIMARY SEASON THIS WEEK THE VOTERS HAD PROVEN THOSE PREDICTIONS TO BE WRONG. THE DEMOCRATIC RACE HAD INDEED BEEN A HOTLY CONTESTED ONE -- BUT MISTER CARTER EMERGED

SEEMINGLY ASSURED OF HIS PARTY'S NOMINATION. AND MISTER FORD, WHILE LEADING IN THE COMPETITION FOR DELEGATE SUPPORT AT HIS PARTY'S CONVENTION IN AUGUST, SEEMED CERTAIN OF A CONTINUING STRUGGLE IN HIS BATTLE FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION. HE ALSO FACED THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE MIGHT BECOME THE FIRST INCUMBENT PRESIDENT IN MODERN TIMES TO BE DENIED THE SUPPORT OF HIS PARTY FOR ANOTHER TERM.

(OPT) IN THEIR FIGHT FOR DELEGATES, MISTER FORD AND MISTER REAGAN THIS WEEK EACH WON ABOUT THE SAME NUMBER -- WITH THE PRESIDENT WINNING IN OHIO AND NEW JERSEY, AND THE FORMER GOVERNOR SWEEPING TO VICTORY IN HIS HOME STATE OF CALIFORNIA. AMONG THE DEMOCRATS, MISTER CARTER LOST IN CALIFORNIA AND NEW JERSEY -- BUT SCORED AN IMPRESSIVE WIN IN OHIO. (END OPT)

(ON THE DEMOCRATIC SIDE) THE WEEK'S BALLOTTING GAVE FORMER GOVERNOR CARTER WHAT APPEARED TO BE AN INSURMOUNTABLE LEAD IN THE RACE FOR DELEGATES -- WITH HIS NEAREST CHALLENGER, CONGRESSMAN MORRIS UDALL, TRAILING BY A THREE TO ONE MARGIN. OTHERS IN THE CONTEST FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION WERE EVEN FURTHER BEHIND -- AND IN A HOME-STATE SPEECH TO SUPPORTERS IN ATLANTA, MISTER CARTER SAID HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH THOSE CONTENDERS INDICATED A DESIRE TO UNITE BEHIND HIS CANDIDACY.

TAPE: CUT ONE -- CARTER

"THEY ALL AGREE WITH ME THAT WE'VE GOT TO BIND OURSELVES TOGETHER AFTER THE PRIMARY SEASON IS OVER. WE'VE GOT A GOOD CHANCE TO PICK UP ENOUGH PRESENTLY COMMITTED DELEGATES AND UNCOMMITTED DELEGATES TO GIVE US A FIRST-BALLOT VICTORY ON JULY ELEVENTH (AT THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY.")

NARR:

HANGING OVER THE CARTER CAMPAIGN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PRIMARY SEASON HAS BEEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT SENATOR HUBERT HUMPHREY -- THE FORMER VICE PRESIDENT WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN EVERY NATIONAL ELECTION SINCE NINETEEN SIXTY -- WOULD STEP FROM THE SIDELINES AND USE HIS WIDESPREAD POPULARITY TO SEIZE THE NOMINATION AT THE LAST MOMENT. BUT RECOGNIZING THE GROWING STRENGTH OF MISTER CARTER, SENATOR HUMPHREY WITHDREW HIS NAME FROM CONSIDERATION -- AND INDICATED HE WOULD SUPPORT MISTER CARTER'S CAMPAIGN FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION.

(OPT)

TAPE: CUT TWO -- HUMPHREY

"FOR MANY MONTHS I HAVE SAID THAT I WOULD AWAIT THE END OF THE PRIMARY ELECTION PERIOD BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER I WOULD ENTER THE RACE OR BE AVAILABLE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION. I HAVE STATED THAT I WOULD SEEK THE NOMINATION ONLY IN THE EVENT THAT THERE WAS NO CLEAR FRONT-RUNNER FOLLOWING THE THREE PRIMARIES IN CALIFORNIA, NEW JERSEY AND OHIO. THE PRIMARIES ARE NOW OVER, AND GOVERNOR CARTER HAS A COMMANDING LEAD. HE IS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN TO BE OUR PARTY'S NOMINEE. I THEREFORE WILL NOT AUTHORIZE ANY PRESIDENTIAL POLITICAL ACTIVITY ON MY BEHALF, AND I WILL DO ALL I CAN TO HELP UNITE OUR PARTY BEHIND THE CANDIDATE CHOSEN BY THE DELEGATES AT THE CONVENTION."

NARR:

AND IN THE HOURS AFTER THIS WEEK'S PRIMARY RESULTS BECAME KNOWN, IT APPEARED MORE AND MORE LIKELY THAT THAT CANDIDATE WOULD BE JIMMY CARTER. SEEING THAT HIS LEAD IN THE DELEGATE RACE WAS TOO BROAD TO OVERCOME, (END OPT) SEVERAL OF THOSE WHO HAD CAMPAIGNED AGAINST MISTER CARTER IN THE PRIMARIES ALSO PLEDGED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR. AMONG THEM WAS ONE OF HIS STIFFEST RIVALS, ALABAMA'S GOVERNOR GEORGE WALLACE.

(OPT) TAPE: CUT THREE -- WALLACE

"I DO FEEL THAT ONE WHO HAS CAMPAIGNED ACROSS THE COUNTRY, RECEIVING THE NUMBER OF POPULAR AND DELEGATE VOTES THAT HE HAS, IS ENTITLED TO THE NOMINATION BY DEMOCRATS AT THE JULY CONVENTION. THEREFORE, I AM RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE DELEGATES PLEDGED TO GEORGE WALLACE CAST THEIR BALLOTS -- ON THE FIRST BALLOT -- FOR GOVERNOR CARTER OF GEORGIA." (END OPT)

NARR:

OTHERS PLEDGING THEIR SUPPORT FOR MISTER CARTER INCLUDED ANOTHER OPPONENT IN THE PRIMARIES, SENATOR HENRY JACKSON, AND CHICAGO'S POWERFUL MAYOR RICHARD DALEY -- WHO REPORTEDLY WILL CONTROL THE LARGE ILLINOIS DELEGATION AT THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. BY ALL COUNTS, THE SHIFT BY THESE MEN TO THE CARTER CAMP GIVES THE FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR MORE THAN ENOUGH VOTES TO WIN HIS PARTY'S NOMINATION -- AND A CHANCE TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT LATER THIS YEAR. (OPT) AT A HOMETOWN CELEBRATION THIS WEEK, MISTER CARTER -- DRESSED IN THE DUSTY CLOTHES OF A GEORGIA FARMER -- SAID THAT WHILE HE WOULD NOT SPECULATE ON WHO HE MIGHT CHOOSE AS HIS VICE PRESIDENTIAL RUNNING MATE, HE DID HAVE SOME THOUGHTS ON THE QUALITIES THAT PERSON WOULD HAVE TO POSSESS.

TAPE: CUT FOUR -- CARTER

"FIRST OF ALL, HE WOULD HAVE TO BE THE BEST QUALIFIED PERSON IN THIS COUNTRY TO BE PRESIDENT IF SOMETHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO ME; SECONDLY, SOMEONE WHO IS POLITICALLY AND OTHERWISE COMPATIBLE WITH ME -- NOT SUBSERVIENT, BUT COMPATIBLE; AND THIRD, PERHAPS, WITH ONLY A REMOTE DEGREE OF IMPORTANCE, SOMEONE WHO WOULD ADD SOME GEOGRAPHICAL OR OTHER BALANCE TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY TICKET." (END OPT)

NARR:

IF THE RACE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION APPEARED TO BE ALL BUT OVER, THE CONTEST FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION SEEMED CERTAIN TO DRAG ON FOR WEEKS. ALTHOUGH THE PRIMARIES ARE OVER, SEVERAL STATES MUST STILL SELECT DELEGATES AT STATE CONVENTIONS --

AND BOTH PRESIDENT FORD AND FORMER GOVERNOR REAGAN INDICATED THEY WOULD WORK LONG AND HARD TO WIN AS MANY OF THOSE DELEGATES AS POSSIBLE. DESPITE THE UNEXPECTEDLY STRONG CHALLENGE BY MISTER REAGAN, PRESIDENT FORD VOICED CONTINUED CONFIDENCE THAT THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION WOULD VOTE TO GIVE HIM THE PARTY'S NOMINATION. AND THIS WEEK HE SOUNDED A THEME USED REPEATEDLY DURING THE END OF HIS PRIMARY CAMPAIGN -- THAT IF THE REPUBLICANS, A MINORITY PARTY, ARE TO WIN THE PRESIDENCY IN NOVEMBER, ONLY HE AND NOT THE CONSERVATIVE MISTER REAGAN CAN ATTRACT ENOUGH DEMOCRATIC AND INDEPENDENT VOTERS.

TAPE: CUT FIVE -- FORD

"I'M ELECTABLE -- AND I CAN HELP TO ELECT MORE REPUBLICAN MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE. DELEGATES UNDERSTAND THAT. THEY WANT TO VOTE FOR A WINNER IN NOVEMBER, AND THEY WANT TO PICK A NOMINEE WHO WILL HELP TO ELECT MORE REPUBLICANS TO CONGRESS AND THE STATE LEGISLATURES."

NARR:

GOVERNOR REAGAN -- SHARPLY CRITICAL OF MISTER FORD'S EFFORTS TO PORTRAY HIM AS AN EXTREMIST -- PLEDGED A FIGHT TO THE FINISH FOR THE SUPPORT OF EVERY CONVENTION DELEGATE -- AND SAID HE WOULD CONTACT MANY OF THEM IN THE WEEKS AHEAD TO TELL THEM HE BELIEVES HE HAS THE BEST CHANCE OF BEATING THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE IN NOVEMBER.

TAPE: CUT SIX -- REAGAN

"FROM NOW ON IT WILL BE A CASE OF (MEETING WITH) DELEGATES AND STATE CONVENTIONS, FINDING OUT THEIR INTERESTS, ANSWERING THEIR QUESTIONS AND THEN LETTING THEM MAKE THEIR DECISION." (QUESTION) "WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO TELL THEM; WHY ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE A BETTER NOMINEE THAN PRESIDENT FORD?" (ANSWER) "BECAUSE I THINK I HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF WINNING IN NOVEMBER."

NARR:

SO IT BECAME CLEAR THIS WEEK THAT EVEN THOUGH THE PRIMARIES HAD ENDED, THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE WAS FAR FROM OVER. AFTER REMAINING DELEGATES ARE CHOSEN, PARTY CONVENTIONS WILL BE HELD -- THE DEMOCRATS IN JULY AND THE REPUBLICANS IN AUGUST -- AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES WILL BE CHOSEN ALONG WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES. NEARLY THREE MORE MONTHS OF INTENSIVE CAMPAIGNING WILL FOLLOW, AND ON NOVEMBER SECOND, AMERICANS WILL GO TO THE POLLS TO CHOOSE THEIR PRESIDENT FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS. BUT FOR THIS WEEK, IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT WHILE THEY MAY HAVE BEEN INCONCLUSIVE, THE PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTIONS HAD SERVED THEIR PURPOSE -- DEMONSTRATING THE STRENGTH OF ONE CANDIDATE AMONG THE MANY DEMOCRATS CONTENDERS, AND FOR THE REPUBLICANS, SHOWING THE POPULAR APPEAL OF CONSERVATIVE CHALLENGER RONALD REAGAN AS WELL AS PRESIDENT FORD. AT WEEK'S END, MAJOR CONTENDERS IN BOTH PARTIES WERE GEARING UP FOR THE NEXT STAGE OF THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN -- AND FOR THE HEATED DEBATES WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO DOMINATE THE RACE FOR THE PRESIDENCY DURING THE REMAINDER OF THIS ELECTION YEAR.

-0-

IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS THIS WEEK THE MAJOR STORY ONCE AGAIN CAME FROM THE MIDDLE EAST, WHERE THE CIVIL WAR IN LEBANON INCREASED CONCERN IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES. SYRIAN TANKS AND INFANTRY -- SENT ACROSS THE BORDER THE WEEK BEFORE TO FORCIBLY SEPARATE WARRING LEBANESE FACTIONS -- ENCOUNTERED UNEXPECTEDLY SHARP OPPOSITION FROM MANY LOCAL LEFT-WING AND PALESTINIAN FORCES. THE WEEK BEGAN WITH SEVERAL DAYS OF BLOODY FIGHTING, AS THE SYRIANS ADVANCED SLOWLY TOWARD THE CAPITAL

CITY OF BEIRUT AND OTHER MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS. RIGHT-WING CHRISTIAN ELEMENTS -- INCLUDING LEBANESE PRESIDENT SULEIMAN FRANJIEH -- SUPPORTED THE SYRIAN MILITARY MOVE, CALLING IT NECESSARY FOR BRINGING A HALT TO THE INTERNAL WARFARE. BUT THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION AND RELATED ELEMENTS -- WHICH ONLY A FEW MONTHS EARLIER HAD WELCOMED SYRIA'S DIPLOMATIC INTERVENTION IN LEBANON -- WERE SHARPLY CRITICAL OF DAMASCUS. P-L-O CHIEF YASSER ARAFAT CHARGED SYRIA WITH TRYING TO "LIQUIDATE THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION AND THE LEBANESE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT." AT MID-WEEK, ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS MET IN CAIRO TO REVIEW THE SITUATION, AND A SHAKY CEASEFIRE SETTLED OVER LEBANON AS THE COUNTRY'S WARRING FACTIONS WAITED TO SEE WHAT MIGHT COME NEXT. THAT MOVE CAME AT WEEK'S END, AS AN ARAB LEAGUE PEACE-KEEPING FORCE OF SUDANESE, ALGERIAN AND LIBYAN TROOPS CROSSED THE BORDER IN AN EFFORT TO ESTABLISH ORDER IN THE WAR TORN REGION. BUT MOST OUTSIDE OBSERVERS AGREED THAT THE SITUATION REMAINED CONFUSED AND UNCERTAIN. THE GROWING BITTERNESS BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND THE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT WAS EVIDENCED BY RENEWED CONTACTS BETWEEN THE P-L-O AND EGYPT. AND IRAQ, WHICH HAS STRONGLY OPPOSED SYRIAN MOVES IN LEBANON, WAS REPORTED TO BE MOVING ITS TROOPS TOWARD ITS BORDER WITH SYRIA. IN WASHINGTON, MOSCOW AND JERUSALEM, OFFICIALS CONTINUED TO MONITOR THE INCREASINGLY COMPLICATED LEBANESE SITUATION. THE SOVIET UNION, A STRONG BACKER OF THE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT, NEVERTHELESS SPOKE FAVORABLY OF SYRIA'S MILITARY INTERVENTION -- CALLING IT A NEEDED STEP TOWARD AN END TO THE CONFLICT. THE SOVIET FLEET IN THE

MEDITERRANEAN INCREASED DURING THE WEEK -- AS BOTH MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON WARNED OF THE DANGERS OF OUTSIDE INTERVENTION.

AND IN JERUSALEM, ISRAELI OFFICIALS WOULD ONLY SAY THEY WERE CONTINUING TO KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON -- AND WOULD CONSIDER MILITARY ACTION ONLY IF ISRAELI SECURITY WAS THREATENED.

AT THE UNITED NATIONS THIS WEEK, ISRAELI AMBASSADOR CHAIM HERZOG WARNED OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE WAR IN LEBANON MIGHT BECOME A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT -- AND HE VOICED SHARP CRITICISM OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR CONTINUING TO IGNORE THE SITUATION, WHILE FOCUSSING INSTEAD ON WHAT HE CHARGED WAS A POLITICALLY-INSPIRED DEBATE ON ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THE SECURITY COUNCIL THIS WEEK BEGAN A REVIEW OF A REPORT ISSUED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S COMMITTEE ON PALESTINIAN RIGHTS -- A REPORT CALLING FOR THE RETURN OF DISPLACED PALESTINIANS TO THEIR HOMES, COUPLED WITH ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED LANDS WITHIN ONE YEAR. MISTER HERZOG SAID ISRAEL WOULD BOYCOTT THE SECURITY COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS, AND HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT REJECTED THE FINDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PANEL, CALLING THE COMMITTEE ONE-SIDED AND ENTIRELY SUBJECTIVE. (OPT)

TAPE: CUT SEVEN -- HERZOG

"SIXTEEN OF ITS TWENTY MEMBERS DO NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, AND SOME EVEN DENY TO THIS DAY ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST. MOREOVER, NOT A SINGLE COUNTRY OF STANDING IN THE FREE AND DEMOCRATIC WORLD AGREED TO TAKE PART IN THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE, SO UTTERLY PREJUDICED WAS ITS WORK CONSIDERED TO BE. THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT IS NOTHING BUT A REPHRASING OF THE P-L-O'S

STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE, AND IN KEEPING WITH THE P-L-O'S DECLARED AIM, THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS ARE, IN FACT, A CALCULATED FORMULA FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL." (END OPT)

NARR:

DESPITE ISRAELI OBJECTIONS, THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE WAS EXPECTED TO STRETCH OUT OVER SEVERAL WEEKS -- WITH MORE THAN THIRTY NATIONS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK. AND DESPITE UNITED STATES OBJECTIONS THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WAS PROCEEDING IN VIOLATION OF ITS OWN RULES, THE P-L-O WAS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PART IN THE DEBATE -- WITH ALL THE RIGHTS OF A MEMBER STATE.

(OPT)

ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL BODY WAS IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK -- AS THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES MET IN SANTIAGO, CHILE. SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER TOOK PART IN THE CLOSED-DOOR MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, MAKING STRONG PROPOSALS IN THE AREAS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION. AND TOWARD THE END OF THE SESSION, SECRETARY KISSINGER CALLED ON THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN CHILE TO RELAX THE TIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON DOMESTIC ACTIVITY -- SAYING THAT THE STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THAT COUNTRY CONTINUES TO IMPAIR RELATIONS BETWEEN SANTIAGO AND WASHINGTON. DURING THE O-A-S MEETING, A GROUP OF FORMER CHILEAN JURISTS AND POLITICIANS RELEASED A REPORT CHARGING THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT WITH CONSISTENTLY VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS BY CARRYING OUT ARBITRARY ARRESTS, SECRET AND BRUTAL INTERROGRATIONS AND OTHER ABUSES. THE GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY DENIED SUCH CHARGES -- AND CHILEAN PRESIDENT AUGUSTO PINOCHET HAS NOTED RECENTLY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD SOON ADOPT A

NEW SET OF GUARANTEES REGARDING PERSONAL FREEDOM. BEFORE LEAVING SANTIAGO THIS WEEK, SECRETARY KISSINGER MADE CLEAR THAT HE HAD URGED THAT SUCH A POLICY BE ADOPTED.

TAPE: CUT SEVEN -- KISSINGER

"I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE. I'M HOPEFUL THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WILL GROW CLOSER, AND I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE ROLE THAT CHILE HAS PLAYED IN ORGANIZING THIS IMPORTANT MEETING, AND FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE MEETING."

NARR:

DOCTOR KISSINGER TRAVELED TO MEXICO AT WEEK'S END TO BRIEF MEXICAN OFFICIALS ON THE CONFERENCE. MEXICO HAD BOYCOTTED THE MEETING IN PROTEST AGAINST WHAT IT CHARGED WAS A SYSTEMATIC CAMPAIGN OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT.

(END OPT)

-0-

(OPT)

IN SPAIN THIS WEEK, STEPS WERE TAKEN TO LIFT THE DOMESTIC RESTRICTIONS AGAINST POLITICAL ACTIVITY IMPOSED DURING THE REGIME OF FRANCISCO FRANCO. THE SPANISH LEGISLATURE OVERWHELMINGLY APPROVED A MEASURE REMOVING A BAN ON MOST OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES -- IN KEEPING WITH PLEDGES MADE BY THE NEW GOVERNMENT. BUT LATE IN THE WEEK, THE LEGISLATURE -- STILL DOMINATED BY CONSERVATIVES LOYAL TO THE POLICIES AND MEMORIES OF THE LATE GENERALISSIMO -- DEFEATED A COMPANION MEASURE THAT WOULD HAVE MADE NECESSARY CHANGES IN THE PENAL CODE. THE ISSUE WAS SENT BACK TO COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW, AND A REVISED VERSION WAS EXPECTED TO BE APPROVED BY THE END OF THE MONTH.

ELSEWHERE (END OPT) IN EUROPE THERE WAS GOOD ECONOMIC NEWS THIS WEEK -- AS BRITAIN'S BELEAGUERED POUND WAS GIVEN A BOOST BY MAJOR INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WHO OFFERED A FIVE THOUSAND MILLION DOLLAR LINE OF CREDIT. IN ADDITION, BRITISH MINERS TOOK SOME OF THE PRESSURE OFF THE SAGGING BRITISH ECONOMY BY ANNOUNCING THEY WOULD ACCEPT RIGID NEW WAGE RESTRAINTS, CITING THEIR CONCERN FOR THE NATION'S ECONOMIC HEALTH. BUOYED BY THE NEWS, THE LABOR GOVERNMENT TURNED ASIDE A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN PARLIAMENT -- AND BRITISH CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER DENIS HEALY SAID THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC PICTURE -- SO GLOOMY AND UNPREDICTABLE ONE YEAR AGO -- HAD TAKEN A TURN FOR THE BETTER.

TAPE: CUT EIGHT -- HEALEY

(OPT) "WE'VE HALVED OUR INFLATION RATE, WE'VE HALVED OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT, WE'VE CUT THE NUMBER OF STRIKES TO A QUARTER OF WHAT THEY WERE IN NINETEEN SEVENTY-TWO, AND FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING WE'VE GOT A PAY AGREEMENT WITH THE TRADE UNIONS WHICH MEANS THAT WAGE SETTLEMENTS IN BRITAIN NEXT YEAR WILL BE LOWER THAN ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD. IT DOESN'T MEAN WE DON'T HAVE QUITE A WAY TO GO -- I KNOW WE HAVE -- BUT IT MEANS OUR SITUATION IS INFINITELY BETTER THAN IT WAS, AND I THINK THERE'S A GOOD DEAL OF ADMIRATION ABROAD FOR SOME OF THE THINGS WE'VE DONE."

NARR:

BRITISH CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER DENIS HEALY. (END OPT)

-0-

IF THERE WAS TALK OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN BRITAIN, THERE WAS TALK OF GROWTH OF ANOTHER KIND IN THE UNITED STATES THIS WEEK... THE GROWTH OF THE NATION'S CHILDREN -- WHO, SCIENTISTS SAY, HAVE BEEN GETTING TALLER AND TALLER DURING THE PAST ONE HUNDRED YEARS. INCREASED HEIGHT, ACCORDING TO RESEARCHERS, HAS BEEN DUE TO STEADILY IMPROVING DIETS AND BETTER PUBLIC HEALTH PROCEDURES --

TRENDS WHICH HAVE PERMITTED BOYS AND GIRLS TO GROW TALLER AND TALLER, PARTICULARLY SINCE WORLD WAR TWO. BUT NOW, SAY THE SCIENTISTS, THE SIZE OF AMERICAN CHILDREN MAY HAVE STABILIZED -- THE RESULT OF HAVING REACHED THE LIMITS OF THEIR GENETIC POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH. AUTHORS OF THE REPORT, ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS, SAID THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS INDEED A MAJOR FINDING -- BUT WARNED ALSO THAT IF THE ENVIRONMENT DETERIORATES DURING THE DECADES AHEAD, AMERICANS COULD EXPECT THEIR CHILDREN TO BE SMALLER THAN THOSE OF THE PRESENT GENERATION.

-O-

ANNCR:

AND THOSE ARE SOME OF THE TOP STORIES THAT MADE HEADLINES THIS PAST WEEK. YOUR NARRATOR WAS--------. JOIN US NEXT-------, WHEN THE VOICE OF AMERICA TAKES A LOOK AT THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS ON "THIS WEEK."

-O-

GH/PBM/PY